

Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ERDA-05 AF-10 ARA-10 CIAE-00
DODE-00 EA-07 EUR-12 PM-05 H-01 INR-07 IO-13
L-03 NASA-01 NEA-10 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OIC-02 SP-02
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FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0240
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
ASMISSION NATO 4537
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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PARM, CCD

SUBJ: CCD: AUGUST 10, 1977 INFORMAL MEETING ON MASS DESTRUCTION
WEAPONS (MDW)

1. SUMMARY: IN AUG 10 CCD INFORMAL MEETING WITH EXPERTS ON
NEW MASS DESTRUCTION WEAPONS (MDW), SOVIET, CZECHOSLOVAK,
AND GDR EXPERTS DISCUSSED SCIENTIFIC POSSIBILITIES FOR NEW
MDW, KEYED TO EXAMPLES LISTED IN ANNEX OF SOVIET DRAFT TREATY.
FRG AND ITALIAN STATEMENTS EXPRESSED SKEPTICISM ABOUT SOVIET
CATCH-ALL PROPOSAL ON BANNING MDW. END SUMMARY.

2. SOVIET EXPERT (FOKIN) REFERRED TO AUG 9 SOVIET STATEMENT
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IN CCD PLENARY AND DISCUSSED FOUR EXAMPLES LISTED IN ANNEX OF
SOVIET DRAFT MDW TREATY: RADIOLOGICAL WEAPONS; DEVICES USING
ACCELERATED CHARGED OR NEUTRAL PARTICLES; INFRASONIC (ACOUSTIC)
WAVES; ELECGROMAGNETIC WAVES. SOVIET EXPERT SAID THE LIST
IS NOT AN EXCLUSIVE ONE, BUT CAN BE SUPPLEMENTED.

3. CZECHOSLOVAK EXPERT (FRANJEK) DESCRIBED MEDICAL RESULTS TO

ANIMALS FROM EXPERIEMENTS INVOLVING NON-IONIZING RADIATION,
ESPEICALLY MICROWAVES AND ULTRASONIC WAVES.

4. GDR EXPERT (JUNG) ADDRESSED POSSIBILITY OF PARALYZING OR
DESTROYING THE COMMAND CENTERS OF THE HUMAN BODY BY MEANS
OF RADIOACTIVITY, ACTING IN A MANNER ANALOGOUS TO THAT EMPLOYED
BY CHEMICAL WARFARE AGENTS.

5. FRG REP (SCHLAICH) PRAISED THE 1948 UN DEFINITION OF MASS
DESTRUCTION WEAPONS, SAYING THAT THE PROHIBITION OF RADIO-
LOGICAL WEAPONS MIGHT BE AN EXAMPLE OF A SPECIFIC AGREEMENT
ON A TYPE OF MDW WHICH SO FAR HAS NOT BEEN ADDRESSED. FRG REP
EXPRESSED DOUBTS ABOUT THE INHERENT VAGUENESS OF A CATCH-ALL
APPROACH TO AN MDW BAN AND ABOUT HOW SUCH A BAN COULD BE KEPT
FROM INTERFERING WITH SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH.

6. FRG EXPERT (FEIGL) STRESSED THE IMPORTANCE OF NOT PLACING
BARRIERS IN THE WAY OF SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH, SAYING THAT THE
WAY TO DEAL WITH REAL WEAPONS POSSIBILITIES IS TO TREAT THEM
ON A CASE-BY-CASE BASIS, PERMITTING SPECIFIC MEASURES OF
VERIFICATION AND CONTROL. FRG EXPERT SAID THAT SOVIET EXAMPLES
OTHER THAN RADIOLOGICAL WEAPONS ARE BASED ON EFFECTS OF PHYSICS
WHOSE USE AS WEAPONS CANNOT AT PRESENT BE FORESEEN, LET ALONE
AS WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION. CONCLUDING, FRG EXPERT
DECLARED THAT "THE POSSIBILITIES OF TECHNICAL REALIZATION
OF A WEAPONS EFFECT MUST BE CLEARLY RECOGNIZABLE BEFORE
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THERE CAN BE ANY CONSIDERATION TO INCLUDE THEM IN A TREATY".

7. ITALIAN REP (MORENO) STATED THAT THE ITALIAN DELEGATION
KNEW OF ONLY ONE MASSIVE PHENOMENON RELEVANT TO THE CURRENT
DISCUSSION, NAMELY THE SUMMERTIME CUSTOM OF A MASSIVE EXODUS
TO THE BEACH AND MOUNTAINS, WHICH HAD MADE IT IMPOSSIBLE
FOR THE ITALIAN GOVT TO SEND AN EXPERT FROM ROME. INSTEAD, HE
SAID, THE NEW MILITARY ADVISER OF THE ITALIAN PERMANENT MISSION
WOULD MAKE A FEW REMARKS IN THE CAPACITY OF AN EXPERT.

8. ITALIAN EXPERT (FRATESCI) DISCUSSED THE QUESTION OF A
CATCH-ALL MDW BAN FROM A LEGAL POINT OF VIEW, EMPHASIZING
THE IMPORTANCE OF PRECISELY DEFINING ANY UNDERTAKING WHICH
WOULD CONSTITUTE A LIMITATION ON NATIONAL SOVEREIGNTY.
THE LAW, HE SAID, IS CHARACTERIZED BY A SPECIFIC NORM AND A
SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE, REQUIRING A CLEAR DEFINITION OF WHAT
WOULD BE AN OFFENSE AND A CLEARLY UNDERSTOOD MECHANISM FOR
APPRAISING COMPLIANCE. IT WOULD BE BETTER FOR CCD TO SPEND
TIME ON TYPES OF MDW WHICH ARE ALREADY KNOWN. IN THIS
CONNECTION, ITALIAN EXPERT STATED, IF US-SOVIET DISCUSSIONS
ON RADIOLOGICAL WEAPONS LEAD TO APPROPRIATE RESULTS, IT WOULD
BE IMPORTANT TO ASSOCIATE CCD WITH SUCH EFFORTS AS SOON AS

POSSIBLE.

9. THIRD MDW INFORMAL MEETING WITH EXPERTS WAS SCHEDULED
FOR THURSDAY, AUGUST 11, IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING PLENARY MEETING.
VANDEN HEUVEL

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Message Attributes

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